

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. ROC920010240US1
MPS Ref. No.: IBMK10240

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated March 4, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 4, 2005. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Claims 1-2, 7-8, 12-15, 20-21, 25-29, and 32-34 remain pending following entry of this response. Claims 3-6, 9-11, 16-19, 22-24, 30, and 31 have been cancelled. Applicants submit that the amendments and do not introduce new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 9, 12, 15, 25, 28, 29, and 32, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Sollich*, US. Pat. No. 6,314,559. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. A telephonic interview was conducted on June 2, 2005 between the Examiner and Attorney for Applicants. An agreement was reached to allow the claims, based upon a review of proposed claim amendments. The claims have been amended, accordingly. Allowance of these claims is, therefore, respectfully requested.

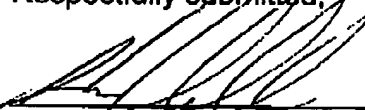
Claims 7-8, 13-14, 20-21, 26-27, 33-34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. As the Examiner has agreed to withdraw the rejection of the base claims, this objection is moot. Allowance of these claims is, therefore, respectfully requested.

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Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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